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young lieutenant affords us interesting side lights on an important campaign, his editor supplements the text with valuable personal notes, and the publishers present the brochure in attractive form.

I. J. C.

Reminiscences. By William Fletcher King. (New York and Cincinnati: Abingdon press, 1916. 716 p. \$2.50 net)

Few men have been privileged to give greater service to the cause of higher education in Iowa than has the author of these reminiscences, who for forty-three years served as the president of Cornell college. Born in Ohio in 1830, he received his education in his native state, graduating from college just sixty years ago. He came to Iowa in 1862 as a teacher in Cornell college, founded nine years previously, and since that time he has devoted his entire life to the welfare of this institution; to him more than to any other Cornell college stands as a monument. His career as a college president is not only distinguished by its great length, but also by the unusual fact that he has been the largest single contributor to the funds of the institution, having given \$200,000 toward its endowment. And the interesting thing about this large contribution is the fact that it was all acquired by the author while president of the college, through fortunate real estate investments. To any one interested in the history of education in the Mississippi valley this book will prove both valuable and interesting.

There are several chapters also which will prove of interest to the general student of American history. The author describes in some detail the frontier community in which he spent his boyhood and youth, the country school of the later thirties and early forties, the text books used, the country church and its influence in the community as a social and religious center. He tells how he was prepared for college, reciting Latin to his tutor, sitting on a log. His college course was interrupted by sickness, and he spent a year in the south in the fifties, where he taught in an academy in Tennessee. Here he had the opportunity of observing the operations of slavery, and of attending a slave auction. His civil war experiences also are well worth relating. The officers of Cornell college conceived the idea of raising a fund to assist returned union soldiers and their children to attain an education. In order to carry out this plan the author was sent to the Iowa regiments in Sherman's army to present the matter to them and to obtain subscriptions. He reached the army at Savannah, and accompanied the troops in their march northward through the Carolinas. The scheme had the approval of the state officials, and met a hearty response from both the officers and men in the Iowa regiments; and Mr. King succeeded in obtaining nearly \$30,000 in subscriptions to the fund. This experience gave the author

an opportunity to make observations of Sherman's methods of procedure, and his comments on the burning of Columbia, of which he was an eye witness, gives new confirmation to General Sherman's contention of innocence in regard to this event.

W. W. SWEET

Travels in the American colonies (1690-1783) Edited under the auspices of the National society of the colonial dames of America. By Newton D. Mereness. (New York: The Macmillan company, 1916. 693 p. \$3.00 net)

In the selection of archival materials for publication in this interesting volume Mr. Mereness has performed a useful service for students of early western history. Of the eighteen records of travel which he has assembled fourteen are concerned in whole or in part with frontier experiences. On further analysis it appears that over half the collection is devoted to the neglected field of the southern frontier. This portion includes such materials as the journals of the South Carolina Indian agents among the Cherokee and Creek Indians on the eve of the establishment of the march colony of Georgia; the report of a ranger under Oglethorpe during the Florida war, 1739-1742; the journal of the inspector-general of Louisiana in 1722-1728; the narrative of a French *voyageur* made captive by the Cherokee Indians in 1741; the record of a French officer who undertook to check English intrigue among the Choctaw in 1746, the period of the Choctaw "civil war;" the journal of David Taitt, Superintendent John Stuart's deputy among the Creek Indians in 1772; and some part from each of the notable diaries of Lord Adam Gordon and Captain Harry Gordon, which cover the years of reconstruction in the west, 1764-1766. In these documents, and in Hamburgh's description of the Michigan-Illinois country in 1763; in Colonel William Fleming's two diaries of journeys to Kentucky in 1779-1780 and in 1783; and in the three Moravian journals of travel between Pennsylvania and North Carolina, the general reader will find much of geographical, ethnological, and social interest. For the special student of western history they will throw light on various aspects of the inter-colonial struggle, on the Indian trade, on the processes of settlement, and on the religious history of the frontier. The editor has increased the usefulness of the collection by introductions setting forth the provenience of each document and its historical bearing, by explanatory footnotes, and by a sufficiently full index. One can only regret that it was not found possible to add to this apparatus a few simple maps with indications of routes and places mentioned.

In the main the work of translation (entrusted to several competent hands) as well as that of editing has been well done. Most of the inac-